

and a heavy dew overnight. It seemed strange that so many birds, which are usually fairly scarce and nomadic could all get together, and home in on this one pile of ash, which was in the open surrounded by lush grass. As last year ('Field and Study', W.A. *Naturalist* June 1985), I found they were remarkably unafraid of human presence in their need for ash.

— KEVIN COATE, 21 Acanthus Road, Willetton, 6155

**Sacred Kingfisher snared by Dodder** — On 11 February 1987 at Gooseberry Hill, W.A. a dead Sacred Kingfisher *Halcyon sancta* was found entwined in the stems of dodder, *Cassytha racemosa* which was growing on *Hibbertia hypericoides*. The bird was a juvenile by plumage and had been dead for some weeks. Dodder stems had twisted around the right leg like fishing line and there were two strands encircling the left wing. It was hanging head down about 20 cm above the ground. There was a perch tree above the site, so probably the kingfisher had become caught while attempting to pounce on prey below the dodder.

— M.G. BROOKER, 27 Marion Way, Gooseberry Hill, W.A.